

A CUBAN GOVERNMENT IN EXILE

The Department has received various inquiries concerning the possibility of recognition of a Cuban Government in Exile in order to demonstrate that the Castro regime is not representative of the Cuban people. Following is a statement taken from a recent letter from the State Department outlining some of the problems involved in such a move:

"The recognition of a Cuban government-in-exile at this time is not in the national interest of the United States because neither the Government of Switzerland or any other government could then represent United States interests before the Castro regime. Were a government-in-exile formed, and should the United States recognize such a government, the United States would have to look to that government and not to the present government in Cuba for the fulfillment of Cuban obligations. There are in addition a number of United States citizens who still reside in Cuba. The Swiss are trying to assist them, including some who are in prison and who can only be reached through the efforts of the Swiss Embassy in Havana."

Other problems arise in attempting to choose among the 200 different Cuban refugee organizations and designate one as the legitimate representative of the non-communist Cuban people.

September 25, 1962